

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Moscow Oblast)  
SUBJECT Six-Engine Aircraft Observed Over Moscow

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1. At the beginning of the air show four aircraft were observed which definitely were six-engine planes.
2. The low-wing monoplane was fitted with three engines mounted in each wing. The rear ends of the engines projected as far as the middle of the wings. The propellers were not all on the same level. The wings were rather long, the leading edge of the wings had a pronounced taper, and the trailing edge a slight taper. The craft had a single rudder assembly. The fuselage was long and slim and the nose was of plexiglass. Several crew members were seen in the cabin. At least eight windows were seen on each side. Gun stations or attachments to the fuselage were not noticed. The size of the craft was similar to that of the Ju-290. It was painted silver and a Soviet star was painted on the rudder assembly and under the wings. Several letters and a multi-digit number were seen on the fuselage. \*

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Comment. Although several returnees reported to have seen six-engine planes in the Moscow area all these statements seem to be based on errors in observation. This assumption is based on the fact that all these craft were seen by the IWS during public displays which were also attended by the diplomatic corps. But neither in the Soviet press nor in the reports of the diplomatic corps was mention made that a six-engine version of a formerly four-engine commercial craft was in existence. This fact makes it probable that all the six-engine planes observed up to the end of 1949 were actually four-engine planes. For sketches of six-engine plane see annex.

1 Annex: Six-Engine Plane Allegedly Seen over Moscow.

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